
**Health Care & Wellness
Committee**

HB 2654

Brief Description: Creating a process for certifying community-based mental health services.

Sponsors: Representatives Hinkle, Cody, Moeller, Green and Kenney.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Directs the Department of Social and Health Services to adopt rules to authorize community service agencies to become Medicaid certified.

Hearing Date: 1/24/08

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

The State of Washington applied for a federal Mental Health Transformation Grant (MHTG) in 2005. The federal government approved the State's grant application and awarded a five year grant, which is managed out of the Office of the Governor. The MHTG is in year three- of a five-year effort to transform the delivery of mental health services through focusing on resilience, recovery, and consumer directed services.

Summary of Bill:

The Department of Social and Health Services (Department) is directed to adopt rules to provide a standardized process for Medicaid certification of community service agencies that are operated by family members of persons with a mental disorder or consumers who have a mental disorder. Services provided through community service agencies include personal care, self help, peer services, comprehensive community support services, psychoeducational services, employment support services, health promotion, skills training, home care training for families, and supervised behavioral health day treatment services.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The Department is directed to provide technical assistance to community service agencies to help them organize, become Medicaid certified, and provide rehabilitation, recovery, and support services.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.